



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Applicant(s):** Mishra, et al.

**Date Filed:** March 15, 2002

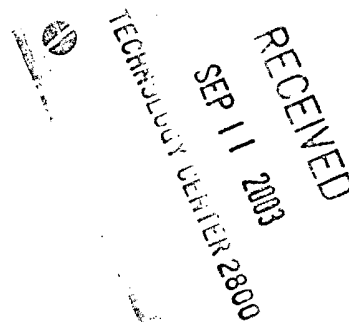
**Application No.** 10/099,615

**Title:** Polymer Blends and Their Application as Viscosity Index Improvers

**Examiner:** Nathan M. Nutter

**Confirmation No.:** 4344

**Art Unit:** 1711



**Certificate of Mailing**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service by First-Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 8, 2003.

Beth Earnest  
(Print Name)

*Beth Earnest*  
(Signature)

**Response to First Office Action**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner's First Office Action dated June 9, 2003. As noted on Page 4 of the Examiner's Letter, Applicants have elected without traverse to prosecute the invention of Group II (Claim 5) of the present application. No change in inventorship arises as a result of this election.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of elected Claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is overcome by the arguments presented herein, placing the present application in condition for allowance. Applicants have amended the present application to delete Claims 1-4 and Claims 6 and 7, as they are drawn to a non-elected invention. The subject matter of Claim 5 is not disclosed by the references cited by the Examiner, as presented below.